PUBLIC AND PRIVATE OWNER-SHIP COMPARED.

Dissatisfaction With the Two Chief Branches of Public Service-Telephone System Especially Bad-Evils of Bureaucratic Management-Competition.

Berlin, May 14. - In no country in Europe can one examine the relative efficiency and economy of State managed and privately managed public services to greater advantage than in Germany. The bureaucracy here is more numerous and its attitude toward the general public is more autocratic than elsewhere among civilized people except in Russia.

It does not follow, however, that the average German is content with all the forms of State control under which he lives. Here in Berlin, for instance, great dissatisfaction is felt with two chief branches of public service, the Metropolitan railroad, or Stadtbahn, and the telephone system. The two fllustrate a condition of things which can be paralleled in almost any part of the empire, just as what is to be said of private enterprise is applicable in the same way.

The Metropolitan is an object of derision to all travellers, not least to the traveller from America. It carries one, indeed, between five stations for 15 pfennigs (four ofennigs equal one cent), but it takes about four times as long as a similar trip in New York does.

No doubt the traveller is amused at seeing his train despatched to the stentorian command "Off!" by a stiff backed personage in captain's uniform, and there is a great deal of concern, not to say curiosity, displayed about his ticket and behavior generally from the moment he enters the station until he is enclosed in a carriage which is usually warm when it should be cool and cold when it should be warm. But he has disagreeable sensations also.

Once he enters a railroad station, one might say any public place in Germany, he becomes "das Publicum," in other words, the servant and chattel of the authorities. There is a story, probably an old one, of the present Duke of Norfolk, when Postmaster-General, going into a London suburban office to buy a penny stamp. The clerk was taking things so easily that the Duke called him to order, and when the clerk in a very impertinent tone asked the Duke who he was received the somewhat astonishing reply, "I am the Public," and with it the Duke's visiting card.

Such a story could not have originated in Germany. In Germany the official is everything and the public nothing. Nor is the public always badly treated, indeed, if it is a good child, if it behaves itself exactly in accordance with the numerous notices displayed in every public office. The authorities in Germany often remind one of the little girl who, when she was good, was very very good, but when she was bad was horrid.

Were the Metropolitan in the hands of a private company the service would be more rapid, the public better treated and the line be more frequently used, not as now avoided when possible. When the line was built by Dircksen a quarter of a century ago it was regarded as a masterpiece of technical chievement. So, perhaps it was, but from the beginning of its career it was bound, as municipal services commonly are, to deteriorate.

Influential incompetence was put at its head, it was overloaded with personnel, an army of bookkeepers with stacks of forms was brought into action, the bureaucratic spirit of contempt for or indifference to the rights of the public began to pervade the entire institution, and inefficiency began almost with the undertaking's birth. In such cases managers are chosen for their personal relations in high, that is to say official, quarters, rather than for their skill and experience, while the staff is recruited, not because of intelligence, alertness and technical fitness, but because of the information the candidates possess in history, Latin, literature and other academic

Under such a system Edison himself would have a poor chance of employment or promotion. The consequence has been that after twenty-five years working in Berlin the number of passengers, instead of rising yearly to correspond with the enormous increase in the population, has remained stationary or decreased. The public prefers the private company's street cars (Strassenbahn) or the carriages of the privately owned elevated and underground railroad (Hochbahn), for they thus get quick transport at a moderate fare, at the same time avoiding overfilled carriages unexpected delays and domineering super-

For the Hochbahn franchise the Siemens & Halske Company pays a rent of about 21/2 per cent. on a yearly income exceeding 6,000,000 marks (\$1,200,000), but a minimum of \$4,000 annually. It is a small but quick and comfortable railway, taking one a dis-tance, at present, of four miles for three cents. Since its establishment four or five years ago not a single accident on it of any gravity has been recorded.

The Berlin telephone system has never

been thoroughly efficient and to-day may b said to be one of the worst in the world.

An organic change in the manner of putting the called in connection with the caller was recently introduced, and ever since the papers have teemed with complaints, con-demnatory resolutions drawn up by public bodies and literature of the same sort.

If the change seemed likely to result in an improvement one might have patience, but for several months it has been in creation and the service instead of grown.

operation and the service instead of grow ing better is daily growing worse. Such an evil would have been avoided by a private company, which would have made sure that it would satisfy its clients before venturing to disorganize commercial and social intercourse and unnecessarily irritate the community. The authorities the community. The authorities do not appear to have consulted the public in any fashion. They simply said, let it be done, and it was done. Now they stand committed and the public is helpless and in more than one sense voiceless.

Probably waterworks ought everywhere to be in municipal hands, but however that

the municipal water supply may be, the municipal water supply of Berlin is excellent and unquestionably well managed, though the price, 15 pfennigs (about four cents) a cubic metre, is comparatively high. The water is not taken to the same extent as formerly from the rivers Spree and Havel, but comes from wells in the bed of an ancient glacier which runs under the heart of the city and being of sandy structure practically filters the

or sandy structure practically liters the water before it reaches the surface.

Dr. Eggert, one of the directors of the works, is not in favor of water supply by the agency of private enterprise. He thinks private companies work at the cost of good quality, are unwilling to spend money on technical processes that are essential to the production of an absolutely essential to the production of an absolutely pure supply and do not control waste as does a nunicipal system, since it is not to their interest to inform the consumer when be is guilty in this respect. The water of the Berlin wells has the unusual advantage of being of a temperature—10 degrees eleine-that makes it ready for drinking

to much for State and municipally owned franchises. We now come to the larger private companies.

Ont Berlin is the best lighted city in the world, such at least is her boast, is due in the first place to private enterprise. Since 1849, there has been a municipal gas plant in existence supplying half the city's wants, but its forerunner and model, the Imperial Continental Gas Company, is entitled to the credit of having shown the way and by its exemplary management kept its municipal rival up to the mark. The history of the Continental is an in-

teresting one. The commany, originally English, is nearly a hundred years old, and

BERLIN'S PUBLIC UTILITIES during that time has given light to most of the chief towns on the continent of Europe. It still has plants in Austria, Spain.

rope. It still has plants in Austria, Spain, France, Belgium and Italy.

Its operations in Germany began with the public lighting of Hanover in 1825, up to which date the streets of the town were lighted with oil. From 1825 to 1849 the Continental had a monopoly in Berlin and elsewhere, but the high prices charged induced the Berlin city fathers to start a gas plant of their own. Competition went on until both companies were threatened on until both companies were threatened with destruction by the perfecting of the electric light. Then came the incandescent burner, the stocking, as it is called in Germany. The Continental now lights the centre of Berlin, charging for its supply

centre of Berlin, charging for its supply 12.25 pfennigs a cubic metre, as against 40 pfennigs, the cost of lighting by electricity. So perfect have the company's incandescent lamps now become that one of the large open places of the city is being lighted with them instead of electricity.

The penny in the slot meter was slow to be adopted in Berlin, but it has become ropular in the last three or four years and there are now 50,000 in ura. The comretition between the Continantal and the municipal plant ceased in 1901, when a common price was agreed on. The Continental has still a monopoly in the centre of the city, paying an annual vent or subsidy of \$125,000 to the municipality, besides possessing long term franchises in the suburbs. of the city, paying an annual rent or sub

Notwithstanding the rent and the similar conditions under which it works in other Continental and German towns, it is able to pay a dividend of 8 per cent. on a capital of \$25,000,000. The lowest wage it pays its unskilled workmen is about a dollar a day, and its skilled workmen \$1.25. It is

contemplating the introduction of an eight or nine hour day. Nothing serious can be alleged against the Nothing serious can be alleged against the municipal system of gas supply, for though it has an apparently cumbrous staff, including four managers, two of whom are jurists and two engineers, with a multitude of technical experts, this is due to the fact that it manufactures and builds all its accessories, reservoirs, plant and piping. In the case of the Continental these accessories are put into the hands of other private companies, and money and work are thus circulated more freely among the community.

The street car system of Berlin is private, The street car system of Berlin is brivate, with the exception of two lines, to Trepow and to Pankow, in which the municipality owns about half the shares. The company running these municipal lines, Siemens & Halske, binds itself to make good any failure

Halske, binds itself to make good any failure to pay dividends. A noteworthy feature in its administration is that it is managed by a council of five, including two members of the municipality, two members of the municipal corporation and a director of Siemens & Halske.

The line is thus practically municipal and suffers from being so in that its plant has been allowed to become old fashioned and that it shows no intention of meeting up to date requirements. The Berlin municipality is about to start four electric lines in competition with the main system of Berlin—the privately owned and manof Berlin—the privately owned and man-aged street car company. This company leaves little to be desired,

save possibly in the matter of speed, but here it is limited by the Prussian police regulations, which up to last year did not allow the cars to travel at more than ten kilometres (say six miles) an hour, though this has since been slightly increased and with an immediate growth in the number

of passengers as a consequence.

The company has a capital of \$20,000,000 and for the last four years has paid a dividend of between 7 and 8 per cent. In 1905 it carried 350,000,000 passengers, or 17,000,000. more than in the year previous. come in the same year was \$8,500,000, of which \$2,300,000 was net profit. The cost of electricity was about \$1,000,000 over about 5,070 metres of rail. About 8,500 per-

about 5,070 metres of rail. About 8,500 persons are employed. Cars number 2,433.

The company pays an annual subsidy to the municipalities, namely to Berlin, 8 per cent. of the gross income (amounting to \$556,500 in 1905), and a share of the net profit (\$94,500 in 1905). To Charlottenburg and Schöneberg (suburban municipalities) the company pays a rent of \$1 for each metre of double track. The company also bears the expense of paving, asphalting, maintenance and cleansing of streets. On the expiry of the agreement in 1920 the system and appurtenances pass into

on the expiry of the agreement in least the system and appurtenances pass into the possession of the municipalities.

In consequence of more practical organization and more intelligent direction the private system is in a position to do the work more economically and satisfactorily to the public than the municipal. It is superior to municipal working in respect to expidity of decision and energy because rapidity of decision and energy, because it does not require so complicated an estab-lishment nor need entertain the many considerations with regard to other municipal

interests which hamper municipalities.

The public is better served, because the improvement of the system and consequently the increase of the traffic are the sole aim of the private company. The cost of administration is cheaper in the case of a company and the fares therefore are lower.

The dividend in 1903 was 8 per cent.; 1905, 7% per cent.; 1905, 7% per cent. The

198. 7% per cent.: 1905, 7% per cent. The indemnity to shareholders on the handing over of the system consists in the creation of an amortization fund by annual reserve from the profits, sufficient to indemnify the shareholders on the expiry of the municipal contracts. The amortization fund amounted

contracts. The amortization tund amounted in 1905 to \$4,375,000.

The Berlin Electrical Works Company, with a capital of about \$20,000,000 (increased recently by \$10,000,000), has a monopoly from the city, though so far limited that an opposition company may be at any day started if the municipality consents. For this franchise the company pays a certain increase of the profits amounting in percentage of its profits, amounting in 1905 to \$925,000, which went into the munici-pal treasury, without the city having either risk or trouble.

The company has been at work more than ten years without the municipality having shown any desire to take it over. The

shown any desire to take it over. The present contract runs till 1914, when it will most probably be renewed.

Director Datterer is very emphatic as to the advantages of private company working. According to him a municipality has not the freedom or facility of working that a company has. There are competing claims on its funds and a really pressing want may have to be postponed a year or two or three in favor of some equally or still more pressing claim. It cannot venture, as a company must, to sink large sums in plant and machinery which some improvement or invention may suddenly render obsolete. render obsolete.

decisions will be passed too slowly or too hastily, and persons must have a voice in them who may be unqualified by business experience or technical knowledge. He sees no objection to the stimultaneous working of more than one company in a town, provided, of course, that proper protective measures are adopted. In Vienna there are five competing com-

panies. Some large towns in Germany possess their own electrical plants, Frankfort possess their own electrical plants, Frankford and Breslau among the number. These are not unsuccessful, because they happen to be run by business men in places where the enervating bureaucratic spirit is not so strong as in Prussian cities.

Germany is scientifically governed from Germany is scientifically governed from above downward, as a regiment is governed from the Colonel downward. The authorities in effect say to the people, "What you want is scientific, not popular, government. Now we have a scientific plan, and if you accurately follow its ten thousand paragraphs you must logically be happy. If you are not happy, well, then, we regret the necessity, but you must be fined or go to jail."

Part of this scientific government consists in a socio-political theory in accordance with which the town authorities endeavor to provide against pauperization by giving so far as may be, a life occupation to the working classes. Once a man is in munici-pal employ he regards his present and future as assured, and the result is that in the majority of cases he ceases to work as attentively and energetically as he would if he knew that he might be dismissed at short notice and that the success or failure of the concern depended in some measure

on his exertions.

If this view of the German attitude is orrect, it shows Germany in a new and very socialistic light, for it represents her as municipalizing everything she possibly can in order to meet, though without openly admitting it, the demands of the socialistic elements in the empire. The more municipally employed workmen there are, the fewer Swist Demografs; that would seem fewer Social Democrats; that would seem to be the reasoning.

POEMS WORTH READING.

Along the grassy shore he wends Ris vagrom way: The rhythmic zephyr softly blends His mellow lay. And carries it afar and wide. His pursed up fips Control with boyish pomp and pride His pipe's shrill quips.

He fashioned it with artful skill From yonder tree-n unforgotten art that will All time to me Remain the source of many a joy Wandered as he, a vagrom boy, In days gone by. HORACE SEYMOUR KELLER.

Sweet Revenge.

The Willow Whistle.

In this dim, secluded place, With a glass before your face, You may smile and smile; You, the maid who scorned in giee In your queenly style. Pictured maid with haughty mier Though quite meek and mild I've been While you held proud sway,

Soon will come my hour of joy. Recompense without alloy. For your cruel play. You who held me on a string Dangling like some puppet thing. Sec. I pay you back! From your place you'll fall, I fear. For I'm hanging you, my dear.

On a single tack. L. S. WATERHOUSE. Milady.

She may sit in halls of Congress May the fairest of the fair. She may even find her office In the Presidential chair.

She may travel with a latchkey When abroad by pight she jogs, She may have a score of pockets. In the manliest of togs.

She may ride a horse a-straddle When upon the road she hies, She may learn to shoot a bullet Without closing first her eyes. But she will not be just equal

Till, with interest intense She can watch a thrilling ball game Through the knot hole in the fence. MCLANDBURGE WILSON.

The Golden Age (Boëthius, Book II., Metre V.) in dear, dim olden, ere that Helicon Flowed with the fountain by the Muses blest Ere greater Hel and Hel of Babylon Drove Terah to low Canaan there to rest When yet the world was new, And skies were first made blue, New man loved God and gave to God his best, A friendship leal and true.

Then man lived in a golden, happy age, And all was peace and joy and hope and health, No punishments were writ on graven page. For still unknown were sinful wrong and stealth. And each one fed his herd

In glad possession of a simple wealth Accounted in a word. At night a couch was found beneath the pine Or sought, perhaps, in some soft fragrant lawn, While not far off the gentle flocks and kine Watched for the first faint flush of dawn.

And at the morning glow They called with mellow low, And on the waking shepherds they would fawn, And joy and gladness show.

The fertile fields all want of food supplied The juice of grape, or running water, drink There were no travellers venturing far and wide: No prow of stranger touched the ocean's br The seas rolled unexplored, Uncut by barks full oared;

o seek a foreign strand might no one think, With trading ships rich stored. So simple was the people's art and life Constant they dwelt in brightness of a peace Unbroken by the bugle blast of strife: Men's thoughts were white as sun washed dews, o

Untouched by Tyrian dye: Pure, joyous thoughts and high Were theirs, and love and mirth without surcease As Heaven might supply. O golden, happy age, return, return!

Alas, and oh, alas! you have no place. For as the fires of Ætna ever burn glows the greed of gain upon man's face. Each quarries out a delf To mine great stores of pelf. And runs an eager, frantic, breathless race. Whose prize is self, is self.

WILLIAM ADAMS SLADE.

Two Sides of a Proverb. In youth my veins with yearning surged Far lands to visit and the seas to cross The rolling stone," remonstrant urged
My cautious parent, "will collect no moss."

I went, I saw, I conquered; and "I always said," quoth Dad, so bland. 'Tis roving bees that get the honey!" E. T. NELSON

The Sea's Call.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel The heave of a deck and a wide blue track, That rises to meet the sky. That rises to meet the sky.

The belching of smoke from her funnels black,
And spray that is leaping high.

The edge of the world that looms afar,
A half moon, ghostly, white—

The salt sca smell and the bright Pole star,
And the winds of a tropic night.

A sky with the storm clouds bending low.

And her bow with a cost of fleck—
The waves, foam capped, that break and throw
The spume on her slanting deck.
The glare in the hold when the stokers feed.
A cheer from her lusty crew;
A cry from the old man: "Give her speed!"—
And the beat of her throbbing sorew.

Oh, these are the things, the ocean's lure, That creep in a sallor's veins— Aye, steal in his heart and soul as sure As the sunlight follows rains. And I am one of the deep sea's brood, And I am one of the deep sea's brood. A child that has gone astray, But I hear her call, and she's understood-And I shall return some day!

Lilac Lure. From the London Dady News.

Last night I sat and read alone,
With windows wide to the sea,
And my dead poets' loves and dreams
Lived and companioned me:
Below, the wave crooned, for my peace,
A murmuring monody.

And pain had reached a tideless time, Slumbrous and passionless: A wiser heart, methought, had lulled To sleep the old distress; It seemed, at last, my lonely soul Accepted loneliness.

Then scent of lilac floated in. Sweet from the springtime rain.
O rragrant lure! that roused the love
That safe asleep had lain:
Here was the old, mad heart once more Awake and wild again!
P. HABBERTON LULBAM.

Wishing. From the Charlotte Observer.

1 wisht I wus a hummin' bird.

I'd nes' in a willer tree.
Den noth'n' but supp'n' wut goes on wings
Could uver git to me.

I wisht I wus a snake. I'd crawl Noth'n' 'd venture down in dar,
'T' d be so dark en col'.

But fis' a nieger in his sheck. Wid de farilght in de chinks— Supp'n' kin see him uvvv time He even so much as winks.

It's a natchel fac' dat many a time I wisht I wus supp'n' wil': A coon or a' owl or a possum or crow— Loas'ways, a little while. I'd lak to sleep in a holler gum. Or roost in a long leaf pine. Whar nothin' 'd come to mess wid me Or ax me whar I's gwine.

The Difference: Night and Morning Oh, it's pleasant in the evening When you're from the city bound To your wife and baby waiting In the suburb by the Sound How you cat a pleasant dinner Far from "downtown" labor hard:

In your own green yard. Oh, the difference in the morning When you're rushing back to town On the good old fast "eight twenty. As she slows and stops completely Your remarks are rough and hard As you spend the morning waiting In the railroad yard.

COMMUTER.

Then you spend the evening resting

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

What were the "days of the company" to which reference is made in current reports of the present disturbances in India in connection with the fiftieth anniversary of the mutiny?

H. WARNER GLEASON.

John Company, the Honorable East India Com-pany, once was sole proprietor of so much as Hin-sustan might be made to yield by sedulous shaking of the paroda tree. The India merchants firs received their charter in 1600, in 1600 it was made perpetual and they were settled in a monopoly of the Indian trade. By this charter they were empowered to maintain an army and a navy and a political system of their own whereby the India Council in London's Leadenhall street exercised a wider sway than did the Parliament of Great Britain in Westminster's Palace of St. Stephen. A fival commany was chartered during the Eng-lish revolution, but in 1708 the two trading establishments were 4malgamated. In 1784 Pitt fathered an India measure which took away from the Hon-orable East India Company its political powers in 1813 the trade monopoly was rescinded, in 1834 the whole of the company's trading rights were swept away in return for an annuity of £650,000 swept away in return for an annuity of £650,000 payable for forty years, redeemable at the end of its term, at the Government's option, for £12,000, 000. The mutiny broke out before the term had run much more than half its course and in 1338 when that grave revolt was put down the com pany was dissolved and Hindustan passed to the sovereignty of the Crown. The days of John Company were not inglorious days, for they were the days of such men as Clive and Warren Hastings,

Yesterday I noted that an English reviewer of a law book written by an American author strongly reprobates this expression: "Lord Mansfield undertook to resurrect that doctrine." I observe that the Century Dictionary states that the word resurrect is colloquial. It must, however, be if very general use in this country, as the ear of no American with whom I have spoken is offended by it. I have been wondering if good literary precedents could not be produced in justification. Is this word found among the blacklist of recognized "Americanisms," and is it to be permanently condemned as such?

The fault upon which objection to the word is

The fault upon which objection to the word is based is that it is formed by analogy where no analogy exists. As protection, for an instance, is naturally derived from protect, a transitive verb, it has been assumed that under resurrection must similarly be a transitive verb to resurrect.
This is not the case; resurrection is a derivative form of the Latin resurgere, a neuter verb. Resurrect is for that reason objected to in England and has obtained no currency, although the custodians of that branch of our common speech seem to manifest no hesitation in employing resurrectioner cussing the word as an Americanism, derives his earliest citation from Benton's "Abridgment of the Debates of Congress," Vol. VI., where in speaking of the founders of the Government, "who are all gone—their bodies buried in the earth, their works buried under rubbish and their names beginning to fade away," this author adds: "I resurrect the

A writer uses the expression "Nothing new under the sun," except that he substitutes the word "something" for the word "nothing." Should the quotation marks in the phrase as he uses it be placed before the word "something," or before the word "new": In other words, should the expression in his book read something "new under the sun," or "something new under the sun." H. V. D.

The marks of quotation serve to set out plainly so much of the matter as is in form the direct words tion for including within such marks the statement "something new under the sun" when it was thoroughly understood that the original state-ment was "nothing new under the sun." It should in strict propriety read something "new under the sun"; and in that case it seems scarcely worth the dignity of quotation marks. It used to be held that the commonplaces of Scripture might be used without assignment of credit on the ground that they were thoroughly familiar to everybody. but perhaps it may be just as well to restore the typographical signs because of the growing feeling that the Bible is by no means so familiar as once

What is the origin of shack as applied to a house of the poorer sort? The word is largely used in the West.

H. T. DAVIS. The Century Dictionary assigns it to a dialectic sense of the verb to shack, signifying to hole up, as an animal about to hibernate. This seems better to fit the form of the noun than its meaning. As the word is wholly American and when first found comes out of the West it is not at all unlikely that the pioneers adopted the word from their Mexican neighbors. The Spanish of Texas and the whole Southwest clear through to Cali-fornia has the word jacal for just such a dwelling hastly thrown together of all sorts of immediately available material. From its proper pronuncia tion of hacal to shack calls for no greater degree of violence than marked the general demeanof the Gringo to the Greaser. This derivation finds support in the fact that the expected inter-mediate form shackle has, though infrequently, been noted in Western speech.

I have a friend whose tenure of the letter H is precarious; they will drop out of his speech in unguarded moments. Do you know of anything that I may tell him that will stick in mind and cause him to mind, not P and Q, but H;

Probably a hopeless case, if congenital, and seldom is a lasting cure possible unless the case be taken in hand early. Charles Stuart Calverley once dealt with the topic, thus: Choose judiciously thy friends; for to discard them

is undestrable. Yet it is better to drop thy friends, O my daughter, Or one may cite from Catullus that Roman Arrive

who picked up superabundant H's, another form of the same faulty speech, and has gone on record as calling the Ionian Sea Hionian. At the Centennial Exposition some interest was excited by a statue in butter. Who was the sculptor and what was the subject of the composition?

WALTER H. GRAY.

The sculptor was Mrs. Caroline S. Brooks, wife of Missouri farmer: the subject was the sleeping lolanthe done in alto rillevo. She had done similar work at county fairs and these successes led her to make an entry at Philadelphia. In the Paris exposition her entry of the same subject was re exposition her entry of the same subject was re-jected for the art exhibit but admitted among the dairy products. Her Iolanthe was reproduced in marble for the Chicago fair. In addition she did

some little work in character and portrait busts butter being used as the modelling material. Are the following parts embodied in sentence, rammatically correct: "We would endeavor you grammatically correct: "We would endeavor you to kindly, &c.," and "and the consent of the owner absolutely necessary, &c.," the verb is, understood in the latter:

THOMAS HENRY. As to the latter there can be no objection if the clause be otherwise properly inserted into the entence. The former is doubly defective; the split infinitive "to kindly" is rarely tolerable, and

the unwarranted use of endeavor as a transitiverb with personal object will not stand analysis. Kindiy advise if the Mikado of Japan has become a convert to the Christian faith, or if you ever heard or saw anything to that effect. S. LELAND.

The Mikado is not Christian. If there were any doubt as to this point it should be dispelled calling the terms in which Togo ascribed to his sovereign's virtues the victory of his ficet.

What is the salary of Mr. Bryce, the British Am-His salary is stated at \$50,000. In addition his Government supplies him with the embassy for a residence and maintains it and provides an entertainment allowance and various smaller funds.

Who is the author of the quotation about never a law of God or man runs north of 53? A. D. P. Rudyard Kipling.

Perhaps I can throw some light on the Stoughton bottle inquiry. Many years ago, how many I know not, a certain drink, called Stoughton Bitters, was in vogue among elderly gentlemen. It was supposed to be a digestive preparation and I can recall seeing a row of empty bottles upon a shelf in an old cellar when I was a child. The expression "An empty Stoughton bottle" was supposed to indicate uselessness or stupidity. It was a favorite expression of a brother-in-law of mine, and many a time I have heard him say "There I stood like an empty Stoughton bottle on a shelf," or "Come on and do something, don't stand there like &c., &c." How old it may be I cannot say, but it is American in origin and the Stoughton Bitters were a predecessor of Plantation Bitters. M. ELDRIDOK.

Your Stoughton bottle querist can be informed that the phrase was used years ago to signify a dummy, a stupid fellow, one who lets a chance pass, "What can I do while you slit there like a Stoughton bottle;" was a common phrase in partner games of cards years ago. Stoughton Bit was a popular drink also years ago, and the appositences of comparing the empty bottle to the player is easily seen. I suppose Stoughton ale is as much a thing of the past now as the phrase tiself.

ls not your correspondent Artemas H. Holmes mistaken in saying that Dr. Dionysius Lardner was a professor at Dartmouth? That he was born in Dublin, graduated at Trinity College, Dublin, and became a professor of natural philosophy in University College, London, are facts as well remembered as Brunel's demolition of his dogma regarding Atlantic steam navigation, his hegira with Capt. Heaviside's wife to this country, his lucrative lecture tour here, his closing years in Paris and his death in Naples. Still, Mr. Holmes may be right.

"Ight.

If your correspondent will consult Dr. Lardner's "Lectures on Science and Ari." Vol. 1, published in 1849 by Grecley & McEirath, he will find full answer to his question. The lecture on "The Atlantic Steam Question," pages 337 to 388, covers the whole question as understood at that time.

W. H. H. GERE.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Friday, June 14, will be the 180th anniversary of the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as the flag of the United States

Three of the best known New Yorkers with eminiscences of political affairs in the city and the State for the last forty years are Edward G. Gilmore, Senator Tom Creamer and Tommy Lynch, one of Gov. Flower's port wardens. These three men, Gilmore, Republican, and Craamer and Lynch, Democrats, could fill eighten yolumes of reminiscences. In the beginning of the careers of these three men New York and not extend much above Fourteenth street and all three as boys frequented the circus which was on the plot of land now occupied by the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Only politicians familiar with inside doings will properly appreciate the experiences of these three men. If Gilmore would write what he knows

and if he would tell of his vast experiences what entertaining volumes he could turn out! Just so with Creamer and Lynch, Alfred Henry Lewis and David Graham Phillips and others have written successfully on the inside workings of political machines but around a table at the Fifth Avenue Hotel the other day the suggestion was made that if Gilmore, Creamer and Lynch could unite their natural eleverness with a literary gift all three could beat any political novelist that New York State or any other State has yet turned out. Then, too, it was added, if Lewis or Phillips and others of equal attainments could have had the experiences of Gilmore, Creamer and Lynch, thousands of novels of the ripest interest, which would be of very great benefit to the American people, could be produced. The conversation ended by recalling that it was Dickens's gift as a literary man, combined with his experiences as a political reporter, that led him to produce novels which brought about great reforms in England.

Senator Foraker at 16 enlisted as a private n the Eighty-ninth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Because of his activity and bra-very he attracted the attention of Gen. Slocum and was appointed an aide on his staff. At Missionary Ridge Foraker was in the very front rank of the charge that went over Bragg's breastworks. Later on in Carolina he bore a message from Gen. Slocum to Gen. Sherman, telling him that his left wing was fighting Gen. Joseph Johnson, who had struck them on the flank, and that reenforcements were badly needed. This ride was a most perilous one, being nine miles long and made in the falling darkness.

Gen. Sherman was greatly pleased over the bravery shown by the dashing young soldier and many years afterward he re-ferred to the incident in a public address delivered at Cincinnati. The occasion was a soldiers' reunion. Foraker was Governor of Ohio at the time. Gen. Sherman in his address turned to Foraker and said:

"I well remember you as you rode into quarters when Joe Johnson struck my left in North Carolina. You burst upon us in a grove of pines, with a message from Slocum, saying that he needed reenforcements. I recall your figure, sir, splashed with mud, your spurs that were red, your splendid horse, hard ridden and panting, and soldier that you looked and were. I marked you well then, and thought of the honors that were your due. You have gloriously attained them and I believe and approve that higher, the highest honors, await you."

"The story which Gen. Sherman told of Foraker on that occasion in a startling, dra-matic way," said an old soldier boy the other day, "was not the first in which young Foraker figured. When Savannah had surrendered a daring spirit was wanted to board a cano and pull down the river, mined as it was with infernal machines, and take all chances in all haste and communicate with the fleet, awaiting news from the army, as was afterward shouted and sung by the soldiers of Sherman. who had marched down from Ohio by Atlanta to Savannah, and to the sea. The young man, the dare devil selected for the extra hazardous duty, and the first of the army to finish the ourse, was the same soldier boy on the blooded horse with bloody flanks calling for Sherman in the North Carolina wilderness.

Two more States have established a direct lection of United States Senators-Iowa and Washington-making five States this and a total of eighteen. The Northern States are Oregon, Washington, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Oklahoma. with a unanimous House in Pennsylvania and a tie vote in the Senate. The Southern States are Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee and Kentucky.

Immigration Commissioner Watchorn of New York says: "There is an improvement noted in the mental capacity of the present day immigrant. I have faith in the immigrant of to-day. Look him over and you will see the father of a race who, after they have passed through our institutions, may not be known from the children of American parents."

OXFORD NEEDS MONEY.

University New Too Poor to Supply Proper Scientific Training in Some Fields.

From the Outlook. The first public act of Lord Curzon as hancellor of the University of Oxford was he publication of an appeal asking for \$1,250,-000 to meet the pressing needs of the university, among which he enumerates the promotion of modern and scientific studies and the maintenance of the Bodleian Library.

In many departments of science he do clares, Oxford is unable, for want of necessary funds and appliances, to supply a scien tific basis for practical work, and an electrical laboratory and provision for giving scientific training for the practical profession engineering are greatly needed.

He says that the gift of Cecil Rhodes, the greatest benefaction which the university has received of late years, has brought with it a burden, adding, as it does, 200 men from all parts of the British Empire, from the United States and from Germany to the body of undergraduates, and imposing upon the university the necessity of offering the newcomers all that is best in teaching, equipment and study.

To Americans it would seem as if this appeal from an institution so venerable, so venerated, intimately associated not only with English scholarshp, but with English literature and English history, would meet with prompt response. Unfortunately, so far neither the universities nor the cathedrals have been able to make up by popular gifts for the great losses they have sustained by the shrinkage of incomes caused by the fall of rents during the last generation

BOOK PLATES.

Their Invention Came Half a Century After the Printing Press.

From the Journal of American Histo It was within half a century from the invention of printing that book plates were introduced as identifying marks to indicate the ownership of the volume. Germany, the fatherland of printing from novable type and of wood outting for making

impressions in ink on paper, is likewise th

ome land of the book plate

The earliest dated wood cut of accepted authenticity is the well known "St. Christopher of 1423," which was discovered in the Car-It was to insure the right of ownership in a book that the owner had it marked with the coat-of-arms of the family or some other

heraldic device. Libraries were kept intact and passed from generation to generation. bearing the emblem of the family The first book plate in France is dated 1574; in Sweden, 1575; Switzerland, 1607, and Italy 1623. The earliest English book plate is found in a folio volume once the property of Cardinal Wolsey and afterward belonging to his royal

English literature is by Pepys, July 16, 1688. The first known book plate in America be longed to Gov. Dudley. Paul Revere, the patriot, was one of the first American en gravers of book plates and a designer of great ability.

The earliest mention of the book plate in

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Uncle Sam About to Conduct a Land Lettery in Montana

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WASHINGTON, May 25 .- Uncle Sam will conduct a land lottery at Billings, Mon., in June, at which time 30,000 acres of the choicest public lands in the State will be awarded to holders of winning numbers. These lands are embraced in the Huntley irrigation project, which is now nearly completed and comprises nearly 700 farms, of forty and eighty acres each.

The Huntley project is located about welve miles east of Billings, and is crossed by two great railway systems, the Northern Pacific and the Burlington, thus affording inusual facilities for transporting crops. These lands have a gentle slope to the Yellowstone River and the elevation of the country is 3,000 feet above sea level.

The Government has built a highway parallel to the railroad, affording a direct line of travel up and down the valley. At short distances along the railways the Government has laid out town sites, so located that no farm is more than two and a half miles from a shipping point.

An auction sale of these town lots will be held immediately following the drawing of the farms, and there will be many opportunities for merchants, professional men and skilled and unskilled laborers. As the farms are small-forty and eighty acres-a compact rural community is assured, making possible graded schools and churches and eliminating the isolation and loneliness of the individual ranch.

The soil of this region is of remarkable fertility and when watered produces bountiful erops. The rainfall varies from 9 to 15 inches annually and is inadequate without irrigation for the growing of farm products. The climate and soil are adapted to the

growing of all the crops of the north temperate zone. As there is a large range country surrounding this section, livestock raising is a predominant industry and furnishes a first class market for alfalfa At Billings a sugar beet factory is now in operation and farmers are increasing their

acreage in this crop as it is very profitable. Apples and small fruits are being raised successfully, as well as sweet oorn, tomatoes and melons. The dairying industry is growing rapidly and cannot keep pace with the demand. The Huntley lands are part of the Crow Indian Reservation, which was ceded to

Indian Reservation, which was ceded to the Government. Settlers will be asked to pay \$\frac{3}{2}\$ an acre for their farms, the first payment of \$\frac{1}{2}\$ in a acre falling due upon making the filing and the balance in four equal annual installments.

The Government in addition to this will charge the settler for the cost of building the irrigation works about \$3\$ an acre for ten years, after which the irrigation system will be turned over to the farmers. The cost of operation and maintenance, about \$6\$ cents an acre, will be paid annually in addition to the charge for building the works. The first payment of \$4.60 will works. The first payment of \$4.60 will become due as soon as filing is made by the successful drawer of a farm.

Irrigated lands in this section have a value of from \$75 to \$200 an acre, according to the state of cultivation and the character of crops grown. Alfalfa, the chief crop, produces about five tons to the acre and at present is worth \$5 a ton in the stack. Sugar beets yield from \$50 to \$75 an acre

if properly cared for.

In order to obviate the unsatisfactory conditions which usually attend the opening of public lands to settlement and to ining of public lands to settlement and to insure every homeseeker an equal chance to obtain one of these farms new regulations designed especially to accomplish this result have been issued by the Secretary of the Interior. These regulations, briefly, are as follows:

Any person desiring to make entry may, either the warms the waits of otherwise.

Any person desiring to make entry may, either through she mails or otherwise, present to the Register and Receiver of the Land Office at Billings his personal affidavit, sworn to before some officer authorized to administer oaths in the Billings land district, enclosed in a sealed envelope. These affidavits must not reach the land office before 8 o'clock A. M. June 18 nor after 1820 P. M. June 2

On June 2 the Secretary of the Interior will be in Billings and the drawing of the envelopes filed will begin. Fifteen hun-dred names will be drawn and the people will be notified in order in groups of fifty to make entries on a given day beginning about July 22 and continuing until the 653 entries have been made. No person will be allowed to file more than one applica-

Wigs Made of Spun Glass.

From the London Daily Mail The enormous feminine demand for artificial coils and toupees is leading to a famine in human hair. Formerly Swiss, German and Hungarian girls supplied the world of fashionable women with luxuriant tresses of

But the Governments of many countries are now making it illegal for a girl to sell he hair or for an agent to buy it. The supply in consequence is running short and the prices of real bair and trebling.

A series of successful experiments point to spun glass as the most effective substitute for human hair. Wigs made from spun glass are wonderfully light and fine and the texture soft and beautiful. soft and beautiful.

It is easy to produce any shade desired, while curis and waves can be manufactured at will to suit the fashion of the moment. The imitation is so realistic and true to life that it is impossible to detect the difference between it and real hair grown on the head.

Among the historical curiosities to be seen at Chatsworth House, the residence of the Duke of Devonshire, is a willow tree that weeps, very often to the personal discomforty of those beneath it.

To the casual observer it appears just an ordinary willow, but on closer inspection it is seen to be artfully artificial. It is made from a metal to closely resemble a living tree, and each of its branches is covered with innumerable holes. In fact, the whole tree is

numerable noise. In fact, the whole tree is a monster syringe, being connected to a water main near by.

The key for turning on and off is close at hand, and many a visiting party has been enticed beneath its branches by practical jokers.

Florida's Cold Geyser From the Ocala Banner

Mr. W. T. Chastain has a drianage well on his place at Seffner which is quite a curiosity for Florida. At intervals it throws streams of water ten to twenty feet in the air; sub-

siding, spouts again.

The natives say that the well happens to The natives say that the well happens to be directly over the devil's furnace, and whenever the devil builds his fires to do his cooking the water in the well begins to holl and spout. This theory is exploded by the fact that the water is not hot, but cold; but the natives explain this by saying that the distance is so great that the water has ample time to cool before reaching the surface of the earth. INSTRUCTION. PRECHEN SIE DEUTSCH HABLA USTED ESPANCE

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DIFFICULT CENSUS TAKING. Delicate Task in Egypt-Discovering

Secrets of the Harens. The country for the last few days has been going through a series of questions and answers. It is the period of the decennial census. At home the taking of the census is a comparatively easy matter. Every householder has his or her sheet to fill up on a certain night and the collector fetches it on his rounds, and there the matter ends. But in Egypt there are in-

superable difficulties in the way of such simple methods. To begin with, as the illiterate class is large, it is manifestly impossible to get the forms filled in, writes a Cairo correspondent of the Pall Mall Gazette. So the Government has had to nominate an army of inspectors, who have been going from house to house and have powers to

penetrate to the inner apartments in order

to obtain full details. Of course in a number of cases the natives, not understanding the cause, resent this intrusion, and some of the incidents have been most awkward. Moreover, very few of the fellaheen really know their ages. their idea of time being fixed by events. Thus one man's reply to the questioner was that he was a boy working in his father's field when Alexandria was bombarded and another that he remembered seeing the "malika fransawiya," evidently the Empress Eugénie, at the opening of the

Suez Canal. On the other hand, the women, unlike their Western sisters, do not consider age a thing to be ashamed of, and unblushingly

of the Easterner's domicile.

Altogether the lot of a census inspector Altogether the lot of a census inspector is by no means a happy one, and it cannot be wondered at that many of them fight shy of the job. The task requires no end of tact, patience and persuasive power, and, considering the difficulties in the way and the fact that the inspectors are empowered to hale recalcitrant inhabitants before the nearest magistrate or mamour, it speaks volumes for the able manner in which the inspectors have tackled their delicate task

The Scientist's Victim.

From the Chicago Journal. A famous scientist, whose early home had been in a country district, had long promised to visit the scenes of his boyhod and deliver a lecture in aid of the funds of one of the institutions of the place. At last

he fulfilled his promise and the electure was given.

When, at the close of his lecture, he was conversing with some of the principal promoters of the affair, they warmly congratulated him on the facility with which he made rather technical matter interesting and clear to his uncultured audience.

"Oh," said he, by way of explanation, "I invariably fix my attention upon that member of my audience who strikes me as having the least intelligent face, and I continue to explain any subject upon which I touch until I see by that person's expression that he understands it."

Almost directly afterward the leading

understands it."
Almost directly afterward the leading public official of the little town came into the room and made his way to where the scientist was standing. tist was standing.
"Sir," he exclaimed, "you cannot possibly pelieve how much real pleasure you have given me to-night. It seemed to me all the time as if your eye was never away from me, that you spoke to me alone and that your whole wish was to make me understand every word you said."

Early Cigarette Smokers.

Who first introduced cigarettes into this country? They were first used in the streets here by the late Laurence Oliphant; and, curiously enough, the introduction of this curiously enough, the introduction of this method of smoking to the English people came as a result of the Crimean war.

Our officers in Russia, among other hardships, could not procure tobacco or cigars, and learned the use of the cigarette from their French, Italian and Turkish allies, and also from their stay in Malta and Gibraltar.

Introduced into Loudon military and other clubs, the new custom made very slow progress. But its use steadily spread from 1870 to 1880, when the fashion was set by the golden youth of those days.

a thing to be ashamed of, and unblushingly admit, in some cases, quite ten years more than possibly is their age. The harems have been another obstacle to the completeness of the census, and in many instances the inspectors have had warm quarters of an hour with the surly and unwilling eunuchs who guard those portions of the Festerner's domicile.

that very few cases have been reported.

e fulfilled his promise and the lecture was

From the Reader.

Tree That Really Weeps. From Tit-Bits.